CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1137263

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Swimming against the tide?

We will help you find calmer waters



CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1137263

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

CONTENTS

	Pages
Trustees' Report	1 to 6
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees	7
Statement of Financial Activities	8 to 9
Balance Sheet	10
Notes to the Financial Statements	11 to 16

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

BASIS OF PREPARATION AND LEGAL FRAMEWORK

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair' view. This departure has involved following Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2019 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Full Name of Charity: Stockton Methodist Circuit

Registration Charity Number: 1137263

Date of Registration: 4 August 2010

Main Communication Address: 4 Fritillary Place

Stockton-on-Tees

TS21 3LZ

The members of the Stockton Methodist Circuit meeting are the Charity Trustees, membership being made up of circuit office holders, ministers and representatives appointed by the local churches.

Full membership is shown at Appendix A of this report.

CIRCUIT MINISTERS AND OFFICERS

Active Circuit Minsters Rev. Vincent Jambawo – appointed September 2021

Rev. Peter Catford – retired August 2021 Rev. Suva Catford – retired August 2021

Rev. Sarah Ramsden Rev. Martin Ramsden

Rev. Rachel Williams - appointed September 2021

Circuit Stewards: Mrs. Liz Mason – retired August 2021

Dr. Peter Dodd

Dr. Roger Taylor - retired January 2022

Mr. John Moore

Mrs. Margaret Walton (property)

Mrs. Jean Jones

Mr. Mark Hall – appointed October 2021

Administrator: Ms. J. Prior

Mr. J.G. Moore acted as the principal officer overseeing the day-to-day financial management and accounting for the Circuit during the year.

Independent Examiner: D.F. Adams FCA

Baines Jewitt Limited Barrington House 41-45 Yarm Lane Stockton-on-Tees

TS18 3EA

Investment Bankers: Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church

Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

AIMS AND ORGANISATION

The purposes of the Methodist Church are, and shall be deemed to have been since the Date of Union, the advancement of:

- (a) The Christian faith in accordance with the doctrinal standards and discipline of The Methodist Church;
- (b) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any Connexional, District, Circuit, local or other organisation of The Methodist Church;
- (c) Any charitable purpose for the time being of any society or institution subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church;
- (d) Any purpose for the time being of any charity being a charity subsidiary or ancillary to The Methodist Church.

The charity's objective is to act as a Resource provider within the area around Stockton-on-Tees for the Methodist Church. To do this we will engage with the community, share with one another and share Jesus Christ. Our activities include:

- The organisation and resourcing of regular public acts of worship open to members of the church and nonmembers alike;
- The teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups;
- The resourcing of pastoral work including visiting the sick and bereaved;
- Taking religious assemblies in local schools;
- Promotion of Christianity through the staging of events and services;
- Provision of chaplaincy services to the local university and other institutions.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

We confirm the trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The governing document for the Circuit is the Deed of Union (1932) and Methodist Church Act (1976).

Detailed governance arrangements are outlined within the Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church by order of the annual conference (CPD).

TRUSTEE TRAINING

A range of guidance is produced by Methodist Connexion to support the effective running of the Circuit, specifically the leaflet 'The Role of a Trustee in the Methodist Church' is given to all new Circuit meeting members as induction to their role as trustees.

RELATED PARTIES

See note 17 to the accounts.

REVIEW OF THE YEAR

Circuit Mission Statement

ENGAGE WITH COMMUNITY [Local and global]

CARE FOR ONE ANOTHER

SHARE JESUS CHRIST

1 Peter 3;15 Be ready at all times to answer anyone who asks you to explain the hope you have in you. (Good News Bible).

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

REVIEW OF THE YEAR - Continued

Significant Developments during the Year

Over this year, the Circuit has been seeking to support churches as they work out how to be church in a season when traditional ways of working have not been possible.

We have maintained contact with the Methodists who have joined the Anglican church at St Paul's in Newtown. They have completed their refurbishment and the new priest was inaugurated on 25 July with one of the new church wardens being a former Methodist member. The Circuit has continued to be involved with the Methodist members hosting conversations when restrictions allowed. These conversations have provided a safe space to talk and have played a part in enabling the project to reach this stage of development.

The staff team has deepened its relationship and supported one another as we have tried to understand how to exercise ministry during the pandemic.

Along with the churches we continue to struggle to find volunteers to fill roles at a Circuit level and to keep these covered. This is causing a rethink in the way the Circuit is structured and we await to see what changes will be prompted in the coming months.

Achievements during the Year

Having come to the end of their five-year appointments, the husband and wife presbyter team decided to move on. Consequently, working through the Methodist Church stationing process, two new presbyters (one of them to be Superintendent Minister) have been appointed to the Circuit and will be joining us in September 2021.

The two new presbyters are not related to each other, so it has been necessary to provide an extra manse. The existing spare manse in Ingleby Barwick needed significant renovation and was located several miles distant from any of the Circuit's churches. This manse was sold and the proceeds, together with some additional funding, used to buy a new manse in the Hartburn area of West Stockton. Some further expenditure was required to bring the electrical wiring and heating system up to the appropriate standard. The new manse is located in the vicinity of the four churches with which the occupying presbyter is most involved.

A number of the Circuit churches have found the year to 31 August 2021 to present financial challenges, with loss of fundraising opportunities, reductions in lettings income and also in some voluntary offerings. As a Circuit, we have been aware of these issues and have supported the churches by offering a dispensation that they need not pay the fourth instalment of the assessment. Six of the ten churches chose to accept this offer. This resulted in a loss of Circuit income of £24,300 and this shortfall was covered from the reserves.

The celebrations of special services of baptism and weddings have recently been restarted. Our focus during the pandemic has been to support those who are grieving by providing a safe venue for funerals to take place in accordance with Government guidelines.

There has been work across the Circuit in partnership with local schools and this has continued during the pandemic using Zoom and recording material to be used for assemblies.

Work in the community has developed at St Andrew's. The Foodbank has continued to seek to serve the community in the pandemic. Local support groups have not met but have been supported by the Community Worker.

The Circuit has been supportive of an initiative at North Billingham in using a bequest to fund their "Grow our Church" project which involves renewal of outside areas and looking to appropriate community involvement in a garden project as restrictions are lifted.

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Achievements during the Year - Continued

In Port Clarence the Circuit continues to support the work of BELP (Billingham Environmental Link Programme) by providing a chaplain on the allotment on a monthly basis. The Circuit is investigating if it can place a chaplain more regularly on the allotment and this will be brought to the attention of the Circuit meeting in the coming months.

The Yarm Road church has continued to develop support of the Asylum Seeker project as they seek to find ways to support people safely as restrictions are lifted. This is being achieved with the aid of a grant from the Darlington District.

Greens Lane has developed outreach into the community and amongst those who have been isolating through knitted installations for Remembrance, Christmas, Lent, Easter and most recently for Creation. It has brought joy and comfort to those who have passed by and purpose to our knitters.

Worship takes place across the Circuit and we have continued to seek to find ways to encourage variety. This year saw the continued developing of Circuit online services and studies and the support of churches as they manage the gradual unlocking as the pandemic continues.

We continue to implement Methodist Safeguarding policy with a new Circuit Safeguarding Officer. He has begun work on ensuring that the Circuit and churches are supported and accountable in adhering to their safeguarding policy. This is being achieved on a one-to-one level with three churches each year and with regular get-togethers of church officers. This, along with training and improved record keeping, is part of the Circuit's commitment to safeguarding vulnerable people of all ages.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Income Trends

Circuit income is primarily drawn from the assessment paid by the Circuit churches. The effects of the coronavirus pandemic have meant that 2020/2021 was a lean year financially for many of the churches. Being mindful of this, the Circuit offered a dispensation that they need not pay the fourth instalment of the assessment and six of the ten churches close to take advantage of this. As a consequence, Circuit income was reduced by £24,300. However, assessments have been agreed with all the churches for 2021/2022 that overall will provide 98% of the pre-pandemic level and it is anticipated all will be able to meet this commitment.

Longer term, the Circuit will endeavour to maintain assessment income at this level. However, it is recognised that with an ageing demographic, there will probably be further reductions in church membership and with a number of ageing buildings to maintain, church finances are likely to come under increasing pressure. Not all of the churches may be able to continue indefinitely. In such circumstances, a significant increase in income from church assessments cannot reasonably be expected.

Expenditure Trends

Stipend expenditure has increased by 2.6% in line with conference approved increases but the assessment paid to the District and Connexion in the year to 31 August 2021 was reduced by 2% from the previous year. This year has also seen £166,000 of the Circuit's cash reserves spent on the purchase of a new manse and subsequent maintenance work to bring it up to standard. However, this was in nature a one-off event and not anticipated to be repeated in future years.

Stipends and associated expenditure and the assessment paid to the District and Connexion make up 75% of Circuit expenditure. In 2021/2022 stipends will increase by 1.16% and from April there will also be the 1.25% rise in employer's national insurance contributions. However, the District/Connexional assessment will reduce by 10.75%. In addition, having used most of the funds in its TMCP account to buy the new manse, the Circuit will benefit by a reduction in the District levy on these funds of almost £7,000.

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

FINANCIAL REVIEW - Continued

Looking further ahead, although in 2022/2023 the District/Connexional assessment is proposed to reduce by a further 5%, stipend expenditure is anticipated to increase by nearly 4.3% and it seems likely general UK inflation will also be at this level. As annual Circuit income is not envisaged to increase in the next few years, if this level of inflation were to continue, it would become an issue of some concern.

Fund Balances

As at 31 August 2021, the net current assets of the Circuit were £256,000 giving approximately 13 months cover for unrestricted expenditure. This is a significant reduction compared to the previous year, largely due to the purchase of the new manse.

Plans for 2020/2021

Circuit financial plans for the coming year have been prepared on the basis that there will be three full-time ordained staff and one part-time lay staff with a 1.16% cost of living stipend increase and taking into account the 1.25% increase in employer's national insurance contributions from April. The assessment paid to the District and Connexion will be reduced by 10.75%. As described above, the assessment income from the churches has been agreed at 98% of the pre-pandemic level. With foreseeable outgoings, income and expenditure is anticipated to be in balance.

RESERVES POLICY

General

It is the trustees' policy to maintain a balance of unrestricted funds equivalent to six months unrestricted expenditure. However, as a consequence of the coronavirus pandemic, the current financial climate remains uncertain and it is not clear how well and how quickly church finances will recover. In these circumstances, it is seen as not unreasonable if reserves are above this level until there is more clarity about the future situation.

The Circuit has agreed to take on two new presbyters from September 2021 and their appointments will have five years to run. In addition, the Circuit has a third presbyter whose appointment still has at least three years to run. It is essential for the Circuit to maintain sufficient income/reserves to ensure the associated financial commitments can be met.

The Circuit also endeavours to hold funds to meet a mission challenge in the Stockton area.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The major risks associated with the Circuit have been identified and recorded by the Circuit Leadership Team (CLT) with professional advice taken as required. There is a regular annual review process undertaken and recorded. Income and expenditure are being monitored in total and is compared with the approved annual budget on a half yearly basis to detect trends as part of the risk management process to avoid unforeseen calls on reserves.

SAFEGUARDING

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of male and female in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's recreation of us in Christ. Among other things this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

Methodist Connexional practice outlines commitment to the following principles:

- The care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults;
- The safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable;
- The establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse;

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

SAFEGUARDING - Continued

- We will carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration with the relevant vetting and barring schemes;
- We will respond without delay to every complaint made which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation;
- We will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care;
- We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust;
- We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult;
- In all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice.

The Stockton Methodist Circuit commits itself to ensuring the implementation of the Connexional Safeguarding Policy, government legislation, guidance and safe practice in the Circuit and in the churches.

The Stockton Methodist Circuit commits itself to the provision of support, advice and training for lay and ordained people that will ensure people are clear and confident about their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults who may be vulnerable.

APPROVAL

This report has been approved by Managing Trustees and will be presented to the Board of Trustees for approval at the 21 March 2022 Circuit Meeting.

Approved on behalf of the Charity's Trustees on 21 March 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

REV. VINCENT JAMBAWO
Superintendent Minister

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

CIRCUIT MEETING MEMBERSHIP

Superintendent Rev. Peter Catford – retired August 2021

Rev. Vincent Jambawo - appointed September 2021

Ministers Rev. Suva Catford – retired August 2021

Rev. Sarah Ramsden Rev. Martin Ramsden

Rev. Rachel Williams - appointed September 2021

Circuit Stewards Mrs. Liz Mason – retired August 2021

Dr. Peter Dodd

Dr. Roger Taylor – retired January 2022 Mrs. Margaret Walton (property)

Mrs. Jean Jones

Mr. Mark Hall - appointed October 2021

Circuit Treasurer Mr. John Moore

Supernumerary Minister Rev. Richard Bielby – retired March 2020

Rev. John Howard-Norman - appointed September 2021

Secretary of the Circuit Meeting Ms. J Prior (non-voting) – appointed June 2021

Secretary of Local Preachers' Meeting Dr. Peter Dodd – appointed June 2021

Local Preacher Representative Mrs. Sheila Hargreaves

Additional Members appointed by

the Circuit Meeting

Mr. lan Fyfe – became a Yarm representative September 2021

Mr. Mike Leason - died December 2020

Mr. John Monkhouse Mr. David Parkin Mrs. Delysia Parkin Mrs. Valerie Wootton

Lay Property Secretary Mr. Vic Bowmer

Lay Mission Support Group Secretary Mrs. Kathleen Mee

Lay Youth Forum Secretary Mrs. Margaret Murray

MWiB Representative Miss Margaret Rose – retired August 2021

Position currently vacant

Methodist Homes Representative Position currently vacant

Safeguarding Dr. Roger Taylor – appointed October 2020, retired January 2022

Ms. Aneta Bradley – appointed February 2022

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

MEETING - SEPTEMBER 2020

From each Church: Steward, Treasurer and Elected Representatives:

Carlton: Joan Burn, Charlton Peters, Margaret Hall – appointed September 2021

Greens Lane: Caroline Noble, David Smart, Judy Morrison, Jim Bruce (died December 2020)

Margaret Schofield

Maltby: Joan Tarren, Stephen Smith, Ken Davison

North Billingham: Rhona Ball, Cynthia Dent, Jackie Pitt, Maureen Gowland

Norton: Guan Lim and Kay Dodsworth – retired August 2021

Howard Gill, Judith Lloyd

Catherine Bemrose – appointed September 2021

Aneta Bradley – appointed November 2021

St. Andrew's: Doreen Sharp, Gill Carr, Marjorie Dunn

Thornaby: Judith Powell, Ken Davison, Edith Appleby, Eileen Middleton

Trinity Eaglescliffe: Robert Woodman, Ralph Barton

Yarm: Joan Rivers – retired August 2021; Abigail Beer – appointed December 2021

Brian Bainbridge, Mark Hall - became Circuit Steward October 2021

Chris Kendrew, Graham Clarke, Roz Matthews

lan Fyfe - was an additional member until September 2021

Yarm Road: Alison Tonkinson, Jim Dale, Edwin Doidge

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2021 which are set out on pages 8 to 16.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- 2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- 3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements concerning the form and content of the accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

D.F. Adams, FCA Baines Jewitt Limited Barrington House 41-45 Yarm Lane STOCKTON ON TEES TS18 3EA

4 April 2022

DFA/GW

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (SOFA) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

	Notes	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2020-2021 £	Total 2019-2020 £
Income						
Income from monetary investments Income from investment	4	339	794	-	1,133	3,509
properties Assessments on churches Grants received	5	- 187,805 -	- - -	5,457 - 4,000	5,457 187,805 4,000	5,238 209,700 17,100
Other income	6	7,270 ———	23,403	<u>-</u>	30,673	13,662
Total Income		195,414 	24,197 	9,457 	229,068	249,209
Expenditure						
Grants and donations Salaries and associated	7	200	-	-	200	6,242
costs Property maintenance Connexional assessment and model trust levy	8 9	129,101 35,822	410	- 1,048 -	129,511 36,870	143,306 29,696
District assessment and levy Office expenses Other outgoings	10	57,736 2,049 2,100	7,756 - -	- - 2,281	65,492 2,049 4,381	67,493 3,499 1,996
Total Charitable Expenditure		227,008	8,166	3,329	238,503	252,232
Net Income/(Expenditure)		(31,594)	16,031	6,128	(9,435)	(3,023)
Transfers between funds	16	192,887	(188,478)	(4,409)		
Net Movement in Funds		161,293	(172,447)	1,719	(9,435)	(3,023)
Total funds brought forward		1,190,420 ————	205,115	90,000	1,485,535	1,488,558
Total Funds Carried Forward	16	1,351,713 ======	32,668 =====	91,719 =====	1,476,100	1,485,535

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (SOFA) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

	Notes	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2019-2020 £	Total 2018-2019 £
Income						
Donations and legacies Income from monetary		-	-	-	-	16,791
investments Income from investment	4	1,702	1,807	-	3,509	3,797
properties Assessments on churches Capital receipts	5	- 209,700 -	- - -	5,238 - -	5,238 209,700 -	5,313 213,825 130,159
Grants received Other income	6	13,662	- -	17,100 - ———	17,100 13,662 ————	15,600 76,893
Total Income		225,064	1,807 	22,338	249,209	462,378
Expenditure						
Grants and donations Salaries and associated costs Property maintenance Connexional assessment and	7 8 9	6,242 125,763 19,519	- 443 9,213	17,100 964	6,242 143,306 29,696	11,053 149,092 22,923
model trust levy District assessment and levy Office expenses Other outgoings	10	58,916 3,499 1,996	8,577 - -	- - - -	67,493 3,499 1,996	32,064 65,383 5,180 2,000
Total Charitable Expenditure		215,935	18,233	18,064	252,232	287,695
Net Income/(Expenditure)		9,129	(16,426)	4,274	(3,023)	174,683
Transfers between funds	16	4,274	-	4,274	-	-
Net Movement in Funds		13,403	(16,426)	-	(3,023)	174,683
Total funds brought forward		1,177,017	221,541	90,000	1,488,558	1,313,875
Total Funds Carried Forward	16	1,190,420 =====	205,115 =====	90,000	1,485,535 ======	1,488,558

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2021

	Notes	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Totals 2021 £	Totals 2020 £
Fixed Assets		-	-	-	-	-
Circuit Manses and equipment Investment properties	12 12	1,127,261 -	- -	90,000	1,127,261 90,000	949,942 90,000
Total Fixed Assets		1,127,261	-	-	1,217,261	1,039,942
Current Assets						
Debtors Investments with TMCP Central Finance Board deposits Cash at bank and in hand	13 14	10,223 - 234,803 33,310	32,668 - -	1,719 - -	10,223 32,668 236,522 33,310	8,917 205,115 264,219 22,114
Total Current Assets		278,336 	32,668	1,719	312,723	500,365
Current Liabilities						
Creditors: due in less than one year	15	53,884	-	-	53,884	54,772
Total Current Liabilities		53,884	- 	-	53,884	54,772
Net Current Assets/Liabilities		224,452	32,668	1,719	258,839	445,593
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		1,351,713 ======	32,668 =====	91,719 =====	1,476,100	1,485,535
Net Assets		1,351,713 ======	32,668 =====	91,719 =====	1,476,100 =====	1,485,535 =====
Funds of the Circuit						
General fund (unrestricted)	16	1,351,713	-	-	1,351,713	1,190,420
Circuit Model Trust Fund (unrestricted)	16		32,668	-	32,668	205,115
Total Unrestricted Funds		1,351,713	32,668	-	1,384,381	1,395,535
Restricted funds	16	- 	- 	91,719	91,719	90,000
Total Funds	16	1,351,713 ======	32,668 =====	91,719 =====	1,476,100	1,485,535

These financial statements were approved on behalf of the Charity's Trustees on 21 March 2022 and are signed on their behalf by:

REV. VINCENT JAMBAWO
.....(Superintendent Minister)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1. CHARITY INFORMATION

The charity (registered number 1137263) is a public benefit entity, established in the UK and governed by The Methodist Church Act 1976. The address of the principal office is given in the charity information on page 1 of these financial statements. The nature of the charity's operation and principal activity is the advancement of the Christian faith.

2. BASIS OF PREPARATION OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Basis of Preparation and Assessment of Going Concern

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value, and in accordance with applicable accounting standards, the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2019 and the Charities Act 2011. The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

3. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Funds

The funds held constitute: General funds held for any purpose of the Circuit which are unrestricted; the Circuit Model Trust Fund has wide purposes defined in Standing Orders and is categorised as unrestricted; Restricted funds which are held for a narrower purpose; there are no endowment funds; details of each material fund are disclosed in the final note to these accounts and any funds may be represented by more than just cash.

(b) Incoming Resources

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the Circuit becomes entitled to the resources and the trustees are reasonably certain they will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

(c) Resources Expended

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, that results in the payment being unavoidable. Liabilities are recognised as soon as an outflow of economic benefit is considered more likely than not under the legal or constructive obligation committing the Circuit to pay out resources.

(d) Grants

Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement or when the Circuit accepts that there is a legal or operational obligation to make the payment.

(e) VAT

Since the Circuit is not VAT registered, all input VAT is charged with the expenses to which it refers.

(f) Tangible Fixed Assets for use by the Circuit

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and individually cost more than £500. The freehold property purchased pre 2015 is shown in the accounts at 2015, deemed values resulting from a valuation in 2005. Freehold property purchased since 2015 is shown at cost. The land component is deemed to be a third. No depreciation is provided because the trustees consider the current residual value of the property in its present condition to be not less than its current valuation and, in the absence of any evidence or impairment, any depreciation provision for the buildings component of the property would be immaterial.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

3. **ACCOUNTING POLICIES - Continued**

(g) Investment Properties

These are properties held for the long term and are included in the financial statements at fair value. Depreciation is not provided on investment property.

(h) Financial Instruments

The charity only has financial assets and liabilities that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

4. INCOME FROM MONETARY INVESTMENTS

		2021	2020		
	Unrestricted	Trust Fund	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Central Finance Board					
Deposits	339	-	-	339	1,702
Investments with TMCP	-	794	-	794	1,807
	339	794	-	1,133	3,509
	===	===	==	====	=====

5. **INCOME FROM INVESTMENT PROPERTIES**

		2021	2020		
	Unrestricted £	Trust Fund £	Restricted £	Total £	Total £
Lettings income: Alpine Way	-	-	5,457	5,457	5,238
Total	-	-	5,457	5,457	5,238
Total	-	- ==	5,457 ====	5,457 ====	5,23 ===

6. OTHER CHARITABLE INCOME

	Unrestricted £	Circuit Model Trust Fund £	Restricted £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
Lettings income:					
2 Wallington Road	6,900	-	-	6,900	6,900
Donations for Connexional					
Funds	200	-	-	200	6,242
Gain on sale of 15 Hanbury					
Grove, Ingleby Barwick	-	23,403	-	23,403	-
Sale of manuals	-	-	-	-	520
Other sundry income	170	-	-	170	-
Total	7,270	23,403	-	30,673	13,662
	====	=====	==	=====	=====

One of the Circuit manses is currently let on a short-term basis. It is anticipated that it will be again required to house a Minister.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

7. **GRANTS AND DONATIONS**

		2021	2020		
	Unrestricted	Trust Fund	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Connexional Funds	200	-	-	200	6,242
	===	==	==	===	====

8. SALARIES AND ASSOCIATED COSTS

	Circuit Model			2021	2020
	Unrestricted	Trust Fund	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Gross wages, salaries and					
benefits in kind	86,951	-	-	86,951	104,405
Pension costs	21,036	-	-	21,036	21,668
Employer's national					
insurance costs	7,345	-	-	7,345	8,586
Apprenticeship levy	467	-	-	467	489
Telephone	2,266	-	-	2,266	2,027
Travelling	1,833	-	-	1,833	2,858
Administration	480	410	-	890	923
Relocation costs	8,723	-	-	8,723	2,350
Total	129,101	410	-	129,511	143,306
	=====	===	==	=====	=====

The average number of staff engaged during the year was 4 (2020: 5). No employees received employee benefits that totalled more than £60,000.

The Superintendent of the Circuit and the other Presbyters and the remaining members of the Circuit Leadership Team are considered as key Management Personnel. The members of the Circuit meeting are the trustees of the Circuit. The stipends, employer's NIC, apprenticeship levy and employer's pension contributions and other expenses of the Presbyters of the Circuit are paid by the Circuit.

Payments to Trustees

Apart from the Presbyters (stipends) and the Supernumerary Minister (preaching fees), no member of the Circuit meeting received any payment for work undertaken on behalf of the Circuit.

Included in these accounts is £1,571 (2020: £5,296) in respect of reimbursed expenses for four trustees.

9. **PROPERTY**

	Unrestricted	Circuit Model Trust Fund	Restricted	2021 Total	2020 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Council tax	5,832	-	-	5,832	4,542
Water supply	1,002	-	-	1,002	1,191
Energy supply	141	-	-	141	356
Repairs and maintenance	20,782	-	131	20,913	17,101
Insurance	3,235	-	-	3,235	3,633
Letting expenses	1,230	-	917	2,147	2,113
Valuation fees	-	-	-	-	280
Quinquennial reports	3,600	-	-	3,600	480
					
Total	35,822	-	1,048	36,870	29,696
	=====	==	====	=====	=====

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

10. **DISTRICT ASSESSMENT AND LEVY**

		Circuit Model	2021	2020	
	Unrestricted	Trust Fund	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
District expenses and					
Methodist Church funds	57,736	-	-	57,736	58,916
Levy on CMTF funds	-	7,756	-	7,756	8,577
Total	57,736	7,756	-	65,492	67,493
	====	====	==	=====	=====

11. **NET INCOME/EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR**

This is stated after charging:

	2021 Total	2020 Total
	£	£
Independent Examiner's Fees: Independent examination – 2021 Less: Overprovision re 2019	2,100	1,998 (2)
	2,100 ====	1,996 ====

12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Circuit Manses	Investment Property	Total
	£	£	£
Cost or Valuation			
Balance brought forward as at 1 September 2020	949,942	90,000	1,039,942
Additions	329,125	-	329,125
Disposals	(151,806)	-	(151,806)
	1,127,261	90,000	1,217,261
Depreciation			
At 31 August 2020 and 31 August 2021	-	-	-
			
Balance carried forward as at 31 August 2021	1,127,261	90,000	1,217,261
Ç .	======	====	======

The Manses comprise four manses for use by the Circuit staff.

The investment property is one property which is held for the long term. In the opinion of the trustees, £90,000 is a reasonable estimate of the market value as at 31 August 2021.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

13. **DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS**

	2021	2020
	Total	Total
	£	£
Assessment debtors	1,200	-
Stipends paid in advance	9,023	8,680
	10,223	8,680
	====	====

14. INVESTMENTS WITH TRUSTEES FOR METHODIST CHURCH PURPOSES

This is an investment receiving body within the Methodist Church and pay interest at market rates.

15. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021	2020
	Total	Total
	£	£
Assessments received in advance	49,320	52,425
Other creditors and accruals	4,564	2,347
	53,884	54,772
	====	=====

16. **SUMMARY OF FUND MOVEMENTS**

	At 01.09.20	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31.08.21
	£	£	£	£	£
General fund	1,190,420	195,414	227,008	192,887	1,351,713
Circuit Model Trust fund	205,115	24,197	8,166	(188,478)	32,668
Total Unrestricted Funds	1,395,535	219,611	235,174	4,409	1,384,381
Tees Valley Housing Fund Circuit Mission and	90,000	5,457	1,048	(4,409)	90,000
Evangelism Fund	-	4,000	2,281	-	1,719
-					
Total Restricted Funds	90,000	9,457	3,329	(4,409)	91,719
TOTAL ALL FUNDS	1,485,535	229,068	238,503	-	1,476,100
	=======	=====	=====	===	=======

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

16. SUMMARY OF FUND MOVEMENTS - Continued

	At 01.09.19	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31.08.20
	£	£	£	£	£
General fund	1,177,017	225,064	215,935	4,274	1,190,420
Circuit Model Trust fund	221,541	1,807	18,233	-	205,115
Total Unrestricted Funds	1,398,558	226,871	234,168	4,274	1,395,535
Tees Valley Housing Fund	90,000	5,238	964	4,274	90,000
Baptismal Worker Fund	-	17,100	17,100	-	-
					
Total Restricted Funds	90,000	22,338	18,064	4,274	90,000
TOTAL ALL FUNDS	1,488,558	249,209	252,232	-	1,485,535
	=======	=====	=====	===	=======

General Fund - this fund is used for general purposes.

Circuit Model Trust Fund - This fund has wide purposes as defined in the standing orders of the Methodist Church.

Tees Valley Housing Fund - This fund is to be used to benefit homeless families.

Baptismal Worker Fund - This fund was used towards the cost of employing a baptismal worker.

Circuit Mission and Evangelism Fund – This fund is used to support new Mission and Evangelism activities.

17. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Churches which form the Stockton Methodist Circuit whose assessments provide the principal income for the Circuit are:

Carlton

Greens Lane

Maltby

North Billingham

Norton

St. Andrew's

Thornaby

Trinity Eaglescliffe

Yarm

Yarm Road

The Circuit paid an assessment and levy to Darlington Methodist District as detailed in note 10 to these accounts.